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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET: 46884-5479

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Mitsuharu MIWA et al.) Confirmation No.: 7737
Application No.: 10/580,007) Group Art Unit: 3737
Filed: May 19, 2006) Examiner: Unassigned
For: LYMPH NODE DETECTING)
APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

A Chinese Office Action dated September 14, 2007 (with English-language translation) that issued in a patent application and having documents cited therein is attached for the Examiner's consideration.

Except as discussed below, the cited documents are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 and copies of the cited documents are also attached hereto.

While the Chinese Office Action dated September 14, 2007 additionally cites to JP 9-154812 and JP 2003-190103, these documents are not listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 because they were previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement in this application on May 19, 2006.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including

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any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573.

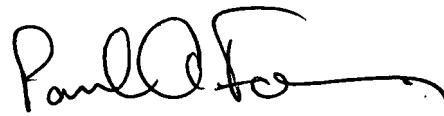
This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.13(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

DRINKER, BIDDLE & REATH LLP

Dated: October 30, 2007

By:



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